- Design promotion and partnerships across many sectors, States and regions for integrating design with traditional and technological resources
- Raising Indian design education to global standards of excellence
- Creation of awareness among manufacturers and service providers about the competitive advantage of original designs
- Attracting investments, including foreign direct investments, in design services and design related R&D
- Involving industry and professional designers in the collaborative development of the design profession

The Concept of a "design enabled Indian industry" would help in promoting 'Made in India' brand abroad.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government of Andhra Pradesh has been requested to allot land at Hyderabad for setting up the Institute.

Negative list of items in ASEAN FTA

2180. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the negative list of 489 items in Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Free Trade Agreement (FTA) has been approved by the seven members of the pact; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The items included in the Exclusion (Negative) List of India's offer have been agreed to by all the ten ASEAN member countries. These are 1297 items at 8 – digit classification equivalent to 496 items at 6 – digit classification.

(b) The details of items included in the Exclusion (Negative) List of India's offer are available at *http://commerce.gov.in/trade/international_ta_indasean.asp*.

Use of plastic bags in Trade Fair

2181. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite ban on the use of plastic bags the same had been freely supplied to the buyers at recently concluded Trade Fair;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government had not briefed the participants in advance about the ban of plastic bags;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (d) India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) had instructed all the exhibitors not to give polythene bags and instead give only paper or jute bags to the customers. During the Fair, ITPO had also made regular announcements to this effect through the Central Control Room set up at Pragati Maidan. ITPO with the support of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Jute Manufacturers Development Council (JMDC), ITC and Government of NCT of Delhi made available eco-friendly bags (paper, jute, cloth) at 28 vending points to facilitate availability of these bags to the visitors. A team of officers from ITPO and Government of NCT of Delhi had conducted regular inspections of the halls to check misuse of polythene bags at the Fair.

(e) Does not arise.

Indian export in negative territory

2182. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian exports continue to be in the negative territory for the tenth consecutive month;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government is taking to increase the exports in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) India's merchandise exports from October, 2008 to October, 2009 are given in Statement [*Refer* to Statement-I appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question 2173 (a) to (d)]. Decline in India's merchandise exports since October, 2008 can be attributed significantly to shrinkage of demand in developed countries due to global economic slowdown, and the reduced international prices of commodities. Government and RBI closely monitor the economic developments in the country and internationally on continuous basis and need-based measures are taken, from time to time, keeping in view, the financial implications. To counter the negative fall out of global slowdown on the Indian economy, the Government/RBI responded by providing carefully designed and calibrated fiscal stimulus packages including the announcements made in the Budget 2009-10 is given in the Statement [*Refer* to Statement-II appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question 2166 (a) to (c)] and in the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2009-14 to provide support, particularly to promote employment intensive sectors. Details of FTP 2009-14, have been laid in Parliament and available in website *http://dgft.gov.in*.